

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELIMINATING
DUAL AUTHENTICATION FOR ENTERPRISE
ACCESS VIA WIRELESS LAN SERVICES**

5 Abstract of the Disclosure

A method and apparatus for the operation of a network access server (*e.g.*, at a wireless LAN hotspot) advantageously eliminates the need for dual authentication by an enterprise employee who connects to a Virtual Private Network (VPN) of the enterprise or other enterprise-authenticated host. The need for an enterprise user to
10 have an account with a network access (*e.g.*, a wireless LAN hotspot) service provider and to be billed individually is advantageously eliminated. Specifically, the network access server provides, without authentication, limited access to the Internet – *to wit*, access to, for example, the VPN gateway(s) of the user's enterprise VPN, or alternatively, access to the VPN gateway(s) of all enterprises which have established a
15 relationship with the service provider. Advantageously, no additional software is required to be resident on the user's terminal (*e.g.*, a laptop computer).